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2352 7590 08/28/2009

OSTROLENK FABER GERB & SOFFEN
1180 AVENUE OF THE AMERICAS
NEW YORK, NY 100368403

EXAMINER	
CATTUNGAL, SANJAY	
ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
3768	

DATE MAILED: 08/28/2009

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/729,074	12/04/2003	Naomi Sekino	P/3541-52	9168

TITLE OF INVENTION: ENDOSCOPIC LITHOTRIPSY APPARATUS AND LITHOTRIPSY METHOD OF TREATMENT OBJECT USING THE APPARATUS

APPLN. TYPE	SMALL ENTITY	ISSUE FEE DUE	PUBLICATION FEE DUE	PREV. PAID ISSUE FEE	TOTAL FEE(S) DUE	DATE DUE
nonprovisional	NO	\$1510	\$300	\$0	\$1810	11/30/2009

THE APPLICATION IDENTIFIED ABOVE HAS BEEN EXAMINED AND IS ALLOWED FOR ISSUANCE AS A PATENT. PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS CLOSED. THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWANCE IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS. THIS APPLICATION IS SUBJECT TO WITHDRAWAL FROM ISSUE AT THE INITIATIVE OF THE OFFICE OR UPON PETITION BY THE APPLICANT. SEE 37 CFR 1.313 AND MPEP 1308.

THE ISSUE FEE AND PUBLICATION FEE (IF REQUIRED) MUST BE PAID WITHIN THREE MONTHS FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS NOTICE OR THIS APPLICATION SHALL BE REGARDED AS ABANDONED. THIS STATUTORY PERIOD CANNOT BE EXTENDED. SEE 35 U.S.C. 151. THE ISSUE FEE DUE INDICATED ABOVE DOES NOT REFLECT A CREDIT FOR ANY PREVIOUSLY PAID ISSUE FEE IN THIS APPLICATION. IF AN ISSUE FEE HAS PREVIOUSLY BEEN PAID IN THIS APPLICATION (AS SHOWN ABOVE), THE RETURN OF PART B OF THIS FORM WILL BE CONSIDERED A REQUEST TO REAPPLY THE PREVIOUSLY PAID ISSUE FEE TOWARD THE ISSUE FEE NOW DUE.

HOW TO REPLY TO THIS NOTICE:

I. Review the SMALL ENTITY status shown above.

If the SMALL ENTITY is shown as YES, verify your current SMALL ENTITY status:

A. If the status is the same, pay the TOTAL FEE(S) DUE shown above.

B. If the status above is to be removed, check box 5b on Part B - Fee(s) Transmittal and pay the PUBLICATION FEE (if required) and twice the amount of the ISSUE FEE shown above, or

If the SMALL ENTITY is shown as NO:

A. Pay TOTAL FEE(S) DUE shown above, or

B. If applicant claimed SMALL ENTITY status before, or is now claiming SMALL ENTITY status, check box 5a on Part B - Fee(s) Transmittal and pay the PUBLICATION FEE (if required) and 1/2 the ISSUE FEE shown above.

II. PART B - FEE(S) TRANSMITTAL, or its equivalent, must be completed and returned to the United States Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO) with your ISSUE FEE and PUBLICATION FEE (if required). If you are charging the fee(s) to your deposit account, section "4b" of Part B - Fee(s) Transmittal should be completed and an extra copy of the form should be submitted. If an equivalent of Part B is filed, a request to reapply a previously paid issue fee must be clearly made, and delays in processing may occur due to the difficulty in recognizing the paper as an equivalent of Part B.

III. All communications regarding this application must give the application number. Please direct all communications prior to issuance to Mail Stop ISSUE FEE unless advised to the contrary.

IMPORTANT REMINDER: Utility patents issuing on applications filed on or after Dec. 12, 1980 may require payment of maintenance fees. It is patentee's responsibility to ensure timely payment of maintenance fees when due.

PART B - FEE(S) TRANSMITTAL

Complete and send this form, together with applicable fee(s), to: **Mail Stop ISSUE FEE**
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INSTRUCTIONS: This form should be used for transmitting the ISSUE FEE and PUBLICATION FEE (if required). Blocks 1 through 5 should be completed where appropriate. All further correspondence including the Patent, advance orders and notification of maintenance fees will be mailed to the current correspondence address as indicated unless corrected below or directed otherwise in Block 1, by (a) specifying a new correspondence address; and/or (b) indicating a separate "FEE ADDRESS" for maintenance fee notifications.

CURRENT CORRESPONDENCE ADDRESS (Note: Use Block 1 for any change of address)

2352 7590 08/28/2009

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I hereby certify that this Fee(s) Transmittal is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage for first class mail in an envelope addressed to the Mail Stop ISSUE FEE address above, or being facsimile transmitted to the USPTO (571) 273-2885, on the date indicated below.

(Depositor's name)

(Signature)

(Date)

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/729,074	12/04/2003	Naomi Sekino	P/3541-52	9168

TITLE OF INVENTION: ENDOSCOPIC LITHOTRIPSY APPARATUS AND LITHOTRIPSY METHOD OF TREATMENT OBJECT USING THE APPARATUS

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nonprovisional	NO	\$1510	\$300	\$0	\$1810	11/30/2009
EXAMINER	ART UNIT	CLASS-SUBCLASS				
CATTUNGAL, SANJAY		3768	601-040000			

1. Change of correspondence address or indication of "Fee Address" (37 CFR 1.363).

- Change of correspondence address (or Change of Correspondence Address form PTO/SB/122) attached.
 "Fee Address" indication (or "Fee Address" Indication form PTO/SB/47; Rev 03-02 or more recent) attached. **Use of a Customer Number is required.**

2. For printing on the patent front page, list

- (1) the names of up to 3 registered patent attorneys or agents OR, alternatively,
(2) the name of a single firm (having as a member a registered attorney or agent) and the names of up to 2 registered patent attorneys or agents. If no name is listed, no name will be printed.

1 _____
2 _____
3 _____

3. ASSIGNEE NAME AND RESIDENCE DATA TO BE PRINTED ON THE PATENT (print or type)

PLEASE NOTE: Unless an assignee is identified below, no assignee data will appear on the patent. If an assignee is identified below, the document has been filed for recordation as set forth in 37 CFR 3.11. Completion of this form is NOT a substitute for filing an assignment.

(A) NAME OF ASSIGNEE

(B) RESIDENCE: (CITY and STATE OR COUNTRY)

Please check the appropriate assignee category or categories (will not be printed on the patent): Individual Corporation or other private group entity Government

4a. The following fee(s) are submitted:

- Issue Fee
 Publication Fee (No small entity discount permitted)
 Advance Order - # of Copies _____

4b. Payment of Fee(s): (Please first reapply any previously paid issue fee shown above)

- A check is enclosed.
 Payment by credit card. Form PTO-2038 is attached.
 The Director is hereby authorized to charge the required fee(s), any deficiency, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account Number _____ (enclose an extra copy of this form).

5. Change in Entity Status (from status indicated above)

- a. Applicant claims SMALL ENTITY status. See 37 CFR 1.27. b. Applicant is no longer claiming SMALL ENTITY status. See 37 CFR 1.27(g)(2).

NOTE: The Issue Fee and Publication Fee (if required) will not be accepted from anyone other than the applicant; a registered attorney or agent; or the assignee or other party in interest as shown by the records of the United States Patent and Trademark Office.

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Date _____

Typed or printed name _____

Registration No. _____

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.311. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 12 minutes to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450.

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2352	7590	08/28/2009	EXAMINER	
OSTROLENK FABER GERB & SOFFEN 1180 AVENUE OF THE AMERICAS NEW YORK, NY 100368403				CATTUNGAL, SANJAY
ART UNIT		PAPER NUMBER		
3768				DATE MAILED: 08/28/2009

Determination of Patent Term Adjustment under 35 U.S.C. 154 (b)

(application filed on or after May 29, 2000)

The Patent Term Adjustment to date is 1239 day(s). If the issue fee is paid on the date that is three months after the mailing date of this notice and the patent issues on the Tuesday before the date that is 28 weeks (six and a half months) after the mailing date of this notice, the Patent Term Adjustment will be 1239 day(s).

If a Continued Prosecution Application (CPA) was filed in the above-identified application, the filing date that determines Patent Term Adjustment is the filing date of the most recent CPA.

Applicant will be able to obtain more detailed information by accessing the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) WEB site (<http://pair.uspto.gov>).

Any questions regarding the Patent Term Extension or Adjustment determination should be directed to the Office of Patent Legal Administration at (571)-272-7702. Questions relating to issue and publication fee payments should be directed to the Customer Service Center of the Office of Patent Publication at 1-(888)-786-0101 or (571)-272-4200.

Notice of Allowability	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	10/729,074	SEKINO ET AL.	
	Examiner	Art Unit	

SANJAY CATTUNGAL
3768

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. This communication is responsive to 07/02/09.
2. The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-5,8,9 and 11-36.
3. Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) All b) Some* c) None of the:
 1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.
THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
5. CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) hereto or 2) to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.

Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. Information Disclosure Statements (PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date _____
4. Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit
of Biological Material
5. Notice of Informal Patent Application
6. Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date _____.
7. Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. Other _____.

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT***Election/Restrictions***

Claims 1and 13 are directed to an allowable product. Pursuant to the procedures set forth in MPEP § 821.04(B), claims 13-33 are directed to different species dependent of the Allowable Claim, previously withdrawn from consideration as a result of a restriction requirement, are hereby rejoined and fully examined for patentability under 37 CFR 1.104.

Because all claims previously withdrawn from consideration under 37 CFR 1.142 have been rejoined, **the restriction requirement as set forth in the Office action mailed on 06/27/08 is hereby withdrawn**. In view of the withdrawal of the restriction requirement as to the rejoined inventions, applicant(s) are advised that if any claim presented in a continuation or divisional application is anticipated by, or includes all the limitations of, a claim that is allowable in the present application, such claim may be subject to provisional statutory and/or nonstatutory double patenting rejections over the claims of the instant application. Once the restriction requirement is withdrawn, the provisions of 35 U.S.C. 121 are no longer applicable. See *In re Ziegler*, 443 F.2d 1211, 1215, 170 USPQ 129, 131-32 (CCPA 1971). See also MPEP § 804.01.

Allowed claims are 1-5, 8, 9, and 11-36.

An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be

filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Mr. Max Moskowitz on 07/31/09.

The application has been amended as follows:

Claim 6. (Canceled)

Claim 13. (Currently Amended) An endoscopic lithotripsy apparatus comprising:

an elongated probe which includes a distal end and a proximal end, the distal end being to be inserted into a body cavity;

an ultrasonic vibration source detachably attached to the proximal end of the probe to transmit an ultrasonic vibration to the probe in a connected state to the proximal end of the probe;

a mechanical shock generation source which is disposed on a side of the proximal end of the probe and which applies a force in a direction to detach the proximal end of the probe with respect to the ultrasonic vibration source to apply a mechanical shock to a treatment object from the distal end of the probe; [[and]]

a switch mechanism to switch a state in which the ultrasonic vibration from the ultrasonic vibration source is transmitted to the proximal end of the probe and a state in which the mechanical shock from the mechanical shock generation source is transmitted, and

the switch mechanism including:

a cylindrical case in which the mechanical shock generation source is disposed in a cylindrical shape and in which the ultrasonic vibration source is disposed inside the mechanical shock generation source and which movably supports the ultrasonic vibration source with respect to the mechanical shock generation source and which includes a screw portion on the outer peripheral surface of the distal end;

a coupling member which is supported by the inner peripheral surface of the distal end of the case and which is connected to the proximal end of the probe; and

a cover member which includes a screw portion screwed onto the screw portion of the distal end of the case and which abuts on the coupling member and which is rotated by the distal end of the case so as to attach/detach the coupling member with respect to the ultrasonic vibration source.

Claim 34. (Currently Amended) A lithotripsy method for a treatment object comprising:

providing an endoscopic lithotripsy apparatus comprising: an elongated probe which includes a distal end and a proximal end; and a switch mechanism including a cylindrical case in which the mechanical shock generation source is disposed in a cylindrical shape and in which the ultrasonic vibration source is disposed inside the mechanical shock generation source and which movably supports the ultrasonic vibration source with respect to the mechanical shock generation source and which includes a screw portion on the outer peripheral surface of the distal end; a coupling member which is supported by the inner peripheral surface of the distal end of the case and which is connected to the proximal end of the probe; and a cover member which includes a screw portion screwed onto the screw portion of the distal end of the case and which abuts on the coupling member and which is rotated by the distal end of the case so as to attach/detach the coupling member with respect to the ultrasonic vibration source;

inserting the elongated probe of the endoscopic lithotripsy apparatus including the probe into a body cavity;

supplying a power to the mechanical shock generation source and applying a mechanical shock to a proximal end of the probe inserted in the body cavity to crush the treatment object by the distal end of the probe;

connecting the ultrasonic vibration source to the proximal end of the probe to supply the power to the ultrasonic vibration source;

transmitting an ultrasonic vibration to the proximal end of the probe to further finely crush the treatment object by the distal end of the probe; and

using the switch mechanism to switch between applying the mechanical shock with the mechanical shock generation source and connecting the ultrasonic vibration source to the proximal end of the probe.

Claim 36. (Currently Amended) A lithotripsy method of a treatment object using an endoscopic lithotripsy apparatus, comprising:

providing an endoscopic lithotripsy apparatus comprising: an elongated probe which includes a distal end and a proximal end; and a switch mechanism

including a cylindrical case in which the mechanical shock generation source is disposed in a cylindrical shape and in which the ultrasonic vibration source is disposed inside the mechanical shock generation source and which movably supports the ultrasonic vibration source with respect to the mechanical shock generation source and which includes a screw portion on the outer peripheral surface of the distal end; a coupling member which is supported by the inner peripheral surface of the distal end of the case and which is connected to the proximal end of the probe; and a cover member which includes a screw portion screwed onto the screw portion of the distal end of the case and which abuts on the coupling member and which is rotated by the distal end of the case so as to attach/detach the coupling member with respect to the ultrasonic vibration source;

inserting the elongated probe of the endoscopic lithotripsy apparatus including the probe into a body cavity;

supplying a power to the mechanical shock generation source and moving the probe inserted in the body cavity in an axial direction of the probe to crush the treatment object by the distal end of the probe;

closely attaching the ultrasonic vibration source to the proximal end of the probe to supply the power to the ultrasonic vibration source;

and transmitting an ultrasonic vibration to the proximal end of the probe to further finely crush the treatment object by the distal end of the probe.

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance: The closest prior art are U. S. Patent No. 4,989,588 to Kubota et al. (Abstract, Claim2, Fig. 1, and Col. 12 lines 38-44); U. S. Patent No. 5,540,702 to Walz (Abstract, Fig. 1, Claims 1, 3, and 8); U. S. Patent No. 6,328,703 to Murakami (Fig.1). None of the prior art alone or in combination teaches An endoscopic lithotripsy apparatus comprising:

an elongated probe which includes a distal end and a proximal end, the distal end being to be inserted into a body cavity; having an ultrasonic vibration

source detachably attached to the proximal end of the probe; a mechanical shock generation source which is disposed on a side of the proximal end of the probe;

a switch mechanism to switch between ultrasonic source and mechanical shock source; the switch mechanism including:

a cylindrical case in which the mechanical shock generation source is disposed in a cylindrical shape and in which the ultrasonic vibration source is disposed inside the mechanical shock generation source and which movably supports the ultrasonic vibration source with respect to the mechanical shock generation source and which includes a screw portion on the outer peripheral surface of the distal end;

a coupling member which is supported by the inner peripheral surface of the distal end of the case and which is connected to the proximal end of the probe; and

a cover member which includes a screw portion screwed onto the screw portion of the distal end of the case and which abuts on the coupling member and which is rotated by the distal end of the case so as to attach/detach the coupling member with respect to the ultrasonic vibration source.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to SANJAY CATTUNGAL whose telephone number is (571)272-1306. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday 9-5.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Long Le can be reached on (571) 272-0823. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

SPC

/Long V Le/
Supervisory Patent Examiner, Art Unit 3768